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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT

SUBJECT The Town of Vidin

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50X1-HUM

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1. The port of Vidin (N 44-00, E 22-51) has a stone quay with space for four or five small vessels. It is equipped with a coal depot. Two new cranes arrived [redacted]. Entrance into the port area is not restricted, with the exception of the eastern part where the ferry operates. The ferry has three pairs of rails, capable of carrying 48 railway cars of 20 tons each, and crosses the Danube River three or four times a day transporting goods and raw materials. A round trip between Vidin and Calafat, Rumania takes about an hour.
2. Military forces at Vidin consist of a unit of Border Guards for the protection of the Danube banks and an unidentified infantry unit equipped with tanks. The infantry unit occupies two barracks, one of which was built in 1948, located about one kilometer west of the town.
3. The following industrial enterprises are located at Vidin:
 - a. The Stalin (formerly Bononi) Factory, located about 500 meters south of the railroad station, employs 150 workers, and produces earthenware goods;
 - b. The State Tobacco Monopoly (formerly Zagorka) Tobacco and Cigarette Factory, located on Todor Petrov Street, now employs 100 workers as compared with 300 before the war;
 - c. The Konopina Hemp Factory [redacted] located near the Danube 50X1-HUM River about four kilometers east of the town; it has been enlarged and now employs 400 to 500 workers; the hemp is packed in bales and sent to other factories for further processing; and
 - d. The Vakumna Canning Factory, located about 1.5 kilometers south of the railroad station, employs 600 to 700 workers during the canning season; cans meat, vegetables and fruit, most of which is intended for export to the USSR.

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